

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

In the Matter of:)	Docket 97-DC&CR-1
)	
Informational Proceeding to Develop)	
Recommendations for Amending the Energy)	
Commission's Responsibilities and Activities Related)	
to Data Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination)	
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)	
Proposed Amendments to the Energy Commission's)	
Regulations Pertaining to Data Collection and)	
Disclosure of Energy Commission Records)	
<hr/>)	August 6, 1997

**PRELIMINARY LIST OF ISSUES AND
NOTICE ESTABLISHING MAILING LIST FOR
THE ENERGY MARKET INFORMATION PROCEEDING**

INTRODUCTION

On May 21, 1997, the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) adopted an Order Instituting Rulemaking to consider changes to its data collection and confidentiality regulations (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, sections 1301 et seq., and 2501 et seq.). On June 25, 1997, the Energy Commission adopted an Order Instituting Informational Proceedings to consider a broad range of changes to its data-related activities. The Energy Commission joined these two proceedings in one docket: 97-DC&CR-1. The Energy Commission delegated authority to conduct this proceeding to the Ad Hoc Information Committee (Committee); the committee will refer to this proceeding as the "Energy Market Information Proceeding."

The Energy Commission's recently adopted Strategic Plan (Publication No. P102.97.001) is a guiding document for this proceeding. This plan, approved by the Governor, states that the Energy Commission should:

Collect targeted energy data and provide policy makers, consumers and other market participants with useful, objective information and analyses based on that data.

Within this proceeding, the Committee will seek participants' ideas and recommendations on the kinds of activities the Energy Commission should undertake to monitor and help

improve energy and energy efficiency market performance. The Committee will review the Energy Commission's current information-related activities, consider options, and make recommendations which may alter or eliminate them.

The Committee will develop within this proceeding its recommendations for staging the activities undertaken by government with those developed by the marketplace. The Committee will then articulate these recommendations to the full Energy Commission. In the nascent stages of restructured energy supply, energy service, and energy efficiency markets there will be information-related roles which the Energy Commission might most effectively serve. As these markets mature the Committee expects that many of these information services will be provided with little or no government intervention.

The Committee will conduct public workshops in August, September and October to discuss data and information-related issues concerning Energy Commission functions. The Committee expects to recommend changes to the confidentiality regulations to the full Energy Commission in September. Based on the input from the workshops, the Committee will produce a planning document in November that:

- ◆ Proposes changes to the Warren-Alquist Act;
- ◆ Proposes changes to the Title 20 data collection regulations;
- ◆ Lists current and proposed inter-agency agreements which permit the cooperative use of data;
- ◆ Describes what actions should be taken to improve the information environment for customers and other market participants; and
- ◆ Identifies outstanding issues and a calendar of events for the remainder of the proceeding.

DISCUSSION TOPICS GENERALLY APPLICABLE TO INFORMATION-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The Committee expects that, through the course of this proceeding, many new information-related issues and topics of discussion will be discovered. The Committee has already identified some topics which cross-cut many of the Energy Commission's market information functions:

- ◆ Government roles and responsibilities to monitor and help improve energy and energy efficiency market performance through information services;
- ◆ Appropriate access to and protection of confidential or proprietary energy market data;
- ◆ Roles and functions of private and public partnerships; and
- ◆ Multi-party access to common electronic databases versus multiple filings of data to regulatory agencies.

ENERGY COMMISSION FUNCTIONS REQUIRING MARKET INFORMATION

The Energy Commission's Strategic Plan outlines a series of roles, goals, and strategies for the agency to pursue. In some instances these closely resemble previous activities undertaken by the Energy Commission, while in others they are entirely new. One task remaining for this Committee is to understand the scope of these activities, the data required for effective implementation, and the need for appropriate tools to acquire the data from energy market participants.

The following sets of questions illustrate the breadth of data and information-related topics the Committee plans to discuss within this proceeding. They are organized into three broad categories of Energy Commission functions:

A. Public Interest Program Planning And Evaluation

- ◆ What information is necessary to evaluate the performance of energy efficiency market transformation efforts? Is all of this information program specific, or are there some general classes of data which serve a broader set of planning and evaluation functions? What strategic planning tools and data will be useful, and how should they be acquired?
- ◆ How should public purpose market and technology assessments be funded? With funds previously used for this purpose now under the authority of the California Board for Energy Efficiency (CBEE), should it be expected that this entity will perform these multiple purpose data collection activities.
- ◆ What information is necessary for the Energy Commission to implement the AB 1890 renewables program? How should this information be collected and evaluated? How frequently is information needed?
- ◆ What data confidentiality procedures best suit the collection of information necessary for the Energy Commission to certify suppliers and providers of renewable energy, and to process the proposed incentive payments and other aspects of the renewables program?
- ◆ Can statewide customer surveys, conducted routinely every few years, provide a necessary and useful time series of consumer and technology characteristics? Could this information help identify target markets for public interest programs? How should access to the consumption data necessary for the survey sample designs be established?

B. Fostering A Customer Friendly Information Environment

- ◆ How can the Energy Commission best facilitate consumers incorporating reliable and trustworthy information into their decision-making processes?
- ◆ What efforts should the Energy Commission undertake to inform and educate consumers about energy choices in the marketplace

- ◆ How should the Energy Commission provide information produced with public funds? Should this information be provided to the public at no cost, at nominal cost, or at fair market value?
- ◆ What is the public's expectation regarding the availability of data through Energy Commission publications, the Energy Commission's Web site, and other electronic media? What is the public's expectation regarding how quick the Energy Commission responds to public requests for data and information?
- ◆ Should the Energy Commission develop a publicly accessible central repository of energy market data? Where is the appropriate balance between encouraging private information service providers, protecting the public's "right to know" and the right to privacy? Can partnerships be established between the Energy Commission and information service providers to optimize the public benefit?

C. Market Performance Monitoring And Policy Assessment

- ◆ What primary data must be analyzed to adequately identify market power or market abuses of companies supplying energy and energy services to California consumers?
- ◆ What information is necessary to evaluate the performance of energy supply, energy service and energy efficiency markets? Do market analysis and information service providers already publish any of these performance indicators?
- ◆ What data, recorded over what time period, will offer future analysts the best opportunities to evaluate today's energy policies?
- ◆ Should energy service providers and generators contribute knowledge of their customers or generation plans to the Energy Commission? Should the Energy Commission develop its own electrical load outlook and generation supply projections?
- ◆ How should the Energy Commission develop electrical system reliability goals and ensure that these goals are met? Should the Energy Commission complete electrical load projections to support this effort? Would electrical load projections developed by the Energy Commission serve the needs of the Independent System Operator and the Western Systems Coordinating Council? What is the relationship of these projections to Scheduling Coordinators' load forecasting responsibilities? How can electrical load growth projections best serve the needs of the Energy Commission's contingency planning efforts?
- ◆ What generation characteristics (e.g., fuel type, efficiency, environmental pollutants) are needed to evaluate energy market performance and to access energy policies? Are all of these characteristics captured by the ISO's data collection activities? If so, is it appropriate for the Energy Commission to obtain these generation characteristics from the ISO? Are there common criteria already required to report power plant characteristics to other agencies? Would using these criteria reduce respondent burden?

- ◆ What are the benefits of standardizing the descriptors and format methods used to report energy use, supply sources, and environmental impacts among state, regional, national, and international organizations?

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Any person may attend noticed hearings or workshops and may also submit oral or written comments or testimony. At this time, the Committee will require parties to file only one copy of any written materials in the Energy Market Information Proceeding Docket. The Committee plans to establish procedures for submitting written materials in electronic form. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, section 1209.) The Committee believes it is too early to establish a service list, and will not require participants to serve written material on each other. However, the Committee will provide an updated list of docketed submittals at regular intervals, and participants may request electronic or written copies of any docketed materials. The Committee is also using the Energy Commission's web site (www.energy.ca.gov) to post information pertinent to this proceeding.

MAILING LIST

The Committee is establishing a mailing list which will include the names and postal or electronic addresses of those people and organizations that intend to participate actively in the Energy Market Information proceeding. Those on the mailing list will receive all Energy Commission notices regarding public hearings and workshops as well as notices about the availability of documents and reports filed in the Docket during the course of the proceeding.

To remain on, or to be added to, the mailing list for this proceeding, you must submit a written request to the Docket, or contact the Project Secretary, Barbara Crume, at (916) 654-4791 (bcrume@energy.state.ca.us) or the Project Manager, Martha Brook, at (916) 654-4086 (mbrook@energy.state.ca.us), no later than September 5, 1997. Since we plan to use electronic means as appropriate, and at the participant's request, please provide your electronic mailing address if you prefer to use that method of communication.

Date: _____

MICHAL MOORE

Commissioner and Presiding Member
Ad Hoc Information Committee

DAVID A. ROHY, Ph.D

Vice Chair and Second Member
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